

FOREWORD

Condensed Final EIS

This section describes the intent, approach and organization used in this condensed Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The intent of this document is to make clear to the reviewer those changes and additions that have been made since the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was published. This is done by refraining from repeating the extensive material given in the DEIS in this document. Rather, the DEIS is incorporated by reference in this FEIS. Thus, changes and additions to the DEIS, which are presented in this FEIS, stand out clearly to the reviewer.

Each major section of the Final EIS will briefly summarize the important information contained in the corresponding section of the draft, reference the section of the draft that provides more detailed information, and discuss noteworthy changes that have occurred since the draft was circulated. Changes and additions are highlighted in bold.

Two new sections are added to Chapter 5.0 “Comments and Coordination”: Section 5.3 has been added to discuss the Public Hearing (one public hearing – two locations) while Section 5.4 presents the responses to the DEIS comments. Appendix A includes photocopies of comment letters from federal, state and local governmental agencies and organizations along with a listing of all individuals who commented on the project. The responses, which are given in Section 5.4 and organized by topic of discussion, are cross-referenced to each appropriate commenting party.

Substantive DEIS Changes and Additions

This FEIS includes discussion of the following substantive changes and additions from the DEIS:

- Additional studies on the potential impacts to Karst areas and groundwater quality issues.
- Mainline and sideroad alignment changes, and the associated right-of-way changes, required to bring the preliminary design into accordance with current State Design Standards (**IDOT Bureau of Design and Environment - BDE**). Included in Appendix A, Aerial Plan Sheets, is a summary of the alignment changes and only those plan sheets affected by the revisions.
- Sections 5.3 and 5.4 have been added to include the Public Hearing transcripts, comments made within 45 days of the Notice of Availability and final coordination issues (public involvement responses).
- Additional crash data have been added to supplement the findings in the DEIS.

